From:

"Chris Jones"

To:

<jorchard@utah.gov>,

Date:

11/2/2008 9:50 PM

Subject:

net metering

The imperative of global warming means that everybody should be trying to generate some of their own power and the current most efficient way of doing that is grid-tie photovoltaics.

Rocky Mountain Power needs to serve the people of Utah by accepting whatever amount of customer-generated power that the people of Utah want to make. 0.1% of RMP's peak demand during 2007 is NOT an invitation to the people of Utah to collaborate in the fight against global warming. 0.1% is instead a clear signal to the populace that renewable energy will be fought by the utilities and is in essence a way of discouraging the kind of initiative that we as a state and a country need to take.

I do not know what a reasonable initial percentage is but it is probably closer to 10%. Whatever number is chosen must be updated every year because the political, economic, and technological environments will likely change much faster than the mindset at RMP will.

I am trying to connect the photovoltaic solar panels I currently have to the grid. Working with Rocky Mountain Power on this is getting better but as recently as one year ago they made it very difficult. In this setting the PSC has a duty to facilitate individual citizen contributions to our national energy security and clearly should not frustrate such contributions. To this end, there has to be meaningful value put on homeowner decisions to improve human well-being by mitigating global warming. That means the appropriate value of excess customer-generated electricity has to be sufficient to provide a meaningful financial incentive such as an approximately ten-year payback period after tax credits or other incentives are also accounted for.

Christopher R Jones